

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-05 ACDA-07 /082 W

-----271103Z 010029 /20

P 271044Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1769

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 1836

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, SO, SU, FT, CM

SUBJ: SITUATION IN NORTHEAST AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 34960 (B) YAOUNDE 716

1. AMBASSADOR INFORMED FONMIN OF DEPT'S QUERIES OF REF A ON FEB 17. NOTE VERBAL SENT FEB 22. GURC RESPONDED WITH DIP NOTE APRIL 22. TRANSLATION WILL BE POUCHED 4/28.

2. GIST OF NOTE'S ANSWER REF A QUERIES FOLLOWS, LETTERED AS IN REFTEL:

A. CAMEROON HAS NOT CHOSEN SIDES IN HORN AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, BELIEVING THIS CONTRARY TO OAU CHARTER.

B. CAMEROON RESPECTS CHARTER PRINCIPLES OF NONINTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND CONSIDERS ERITREAN PROBLEM INTERNAL AFFAIR OF ETHIOPIA.

C. QUESTION ON CAMEROONIAN PERCEPTIONS OF ETHIOPIA UNANSWERED.

D. INTERPRETATION OF HORN PROBLEMS AS AFRICAN VS. ARAB ISSUE CALLED "NOT ALTOGETHER WELL FOUNDED" AND INCONSISTENT WITH RECENT AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT.

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E. QUESTION ON OAU SEAT TRANSFER UNANSWERED.

F. QUESTION ON SOMALI AMBITIONS NOT ANSWERED DIRECTLY. IMPLICIT DISAPPROVAL SEEMS CONVEYED IN EMPHASIS ON NONINTERFERENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF OAU MEMBERS.

G. CAMEROON WILL GIVE NO SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO ANY ONE OF HORN COUNTRIES AS IT HAS "POLITICAL WILL OF ENTERTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THEM BOTH WITHIN THE OAU AND ON THE BILATERAL LEVEL, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THEIR POLITICAL IDEOLOGY."

H. U.S. MILITARY AID TO ETHIOPIA SEEN AS PROBLEM CONCERNING ONLY THE TWO COUNTRIES INVOLVED. NO FURTHER COMMENT MADE.

3. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS IN AFRICA, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL IN PRESIDENCY BOUBA BELLO COMPARED ETHIOPIA UNFAVORABLY WITH UGANDA. BOUBA BELLO HAD DISCUSSED ETHIOPIAN SITUATION WITH CAMEROONIAN AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA AND DEAN OF ADDIS DIP CORPS DICKO, WHO HAD TOLD HIM OF DAILY/NIGHTLY SHOOTINGS AND ARRESTS BY MILITIA.

4. COMMENT: NOTE IS TYPICAL OF DELIBERATE, CAUTIOUS, PRUDENT STYLE OF CAMEROONIAN GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS ITS RELUCTANCE TO COMMIT ITSELF ON ISSUES NOT OF MORE DIRECT CURRENT INTEREST TO CAMEROON.  
SPIRO

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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